$ 1,00
37 1/2
1,00
3,00
2,50
6,00
3,00
3,00
2,25
1,00
42
1,00
1,50
1,50
87 1/2
56 1/4
70 1/2
50
20
30
25
0 1
2,-4
6 1
4
0 1
4
10
56
16 1/2
75
37 1/2
20
100

5,87 1/2
17,25
2,92
1,10
3,64 1/2
1,62 1/2
3,23
36,04 1/2

90
75
165
37 1/2
203

Boston, 1840

Dear Friend,

Knowing your activity, zeal and efficiency, in the glorious cause of human freedom, and your willingness to encourage by your aid every judicious movement to advance our cause, and cripple the influence of slavery, I take the liberty to say a few words with respect to the wants of our cause, and urge upon you to adopt a plan by which all the friends of impartial liberty may be induced to come up to the aid of our treasury.

While the pulpit, the press and public opinion are arrayed against our cause — while the mass of the public remain ignorant of the nature and tendency of our principles and measures — while, in fact, any indifference is manifested by the Sons of the North for the helpless victims of Southern oppression, the State should be filled with able and efficient lecturers, — libraries should be established in every school district — newspapers, pamphlets & petitions should be printed & spread broadcast over the land, that hatred, prejudice and doubt may be removed, and the entire north converted to the doctrine that "all men have an inalienable right to liberty and the pursuit of happiness" and that "God hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell upon all the face of the earth." Then and not till then, can the North, with clean skirts, apply these principles to the system of slavery, so that tyranny and oppression shall give place to justice and mercy, and the coloured man be clothed with the rights and dignity of a man. But this cannot be done without the means. This is, emphatically, an enterprise which cannot be successfully prosecuted without funds.

Previous to this pecuniary pressure, which is now raging like an epidemic, the Massachusetts Anti Slavery Society commissioned a large number of able and efficient lecturing, financial & book agents with the confident assurance that, through the influence of their labors, the state would soon embrace the great principles embodied in our Anti Slavery constitutions. But the sudden prostration of business has cut us off, to a great extent, from the large contributions upon which the society gratefully relied, and has rendered the collection of funds, at present, by agents entirely impracticable. Some new plan for raising funds must be adopted to enable the Board to meet the liabilities of the Society so that our able and devoted agents may still be retained. This is very important as the people are inquiring for lights upon this subject, and a strong desire is manifested on their part, to hear the subject discussed. Urgent requests are constantly being made from almost every part of the commonwealth for lecturers, more than twice equalling our ability to supply. In this crisis what is to be done? Shall the Board discharge her agents & throw up the cause in despair? No! Let it not be said that in Massachusetts, where the note of liberty was first sounded, that now, agitation must cease, & the tide of proslavery again flood the land, & bury our cause, in the waters of oppression. Let those who have sustained this cause through great and trying emergencies, look back upon what has been accomplished and take courage.

In times past, too much dependence has been placed upon the abundance of the fe
this mites of the many have been almost disregarded. Our cause must be thrown upon the people, the
whole people. Let the farmer and merchant, the laborer and mechanic, the lawyer and clergyman,
the teacher and physician, men and women, old and young, rich and poor, feel that this is their cause, &
contribute to it as God prospers them. Let this course be adopted, and the friends of freedom will be
inspired with new hopes & the day of redemption to the millions of bondmen and women will be hastened

I wish to call your attention, particularly, to a plan which the Board of Managers of the
Massachusetts Anti Slavery Society have approved for raising money by Weekly Contributions,
called the "Weekly Contribution Plan."

Paul in his charge to the Corinthian Church, says:- "As I have given orders unto the Churches
of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week, let every one of you lay by him in store, as
God hath prospered him that there be no gatherings when I come." 1 Cor. XVI. 1 & 2 vs. Should the
friends of the cause adopt this plan of the Apostle Paul, & follow it up efficiently, our treasury would
be filled without burdening any one. Let, for instance, twelve men & women in each town have a
meeting & pledge themselves to procure ten weekly contributors, which should average six cents each:
This would amount in a year to $374.20 Multiply this sum by 300 the number of towns,
and we have one hundred twelve thousand two hundred dollars, sixty cents. Deduct three fourths of
this sum & we then have a balance left of twenty eight thousand fifty dollars, thirty cents. The suc-
cess of the cent a week plan, partial as it has been, proves the possibility of procuring this large sum
by such simple means. While a great number of towns would do nothing, others would more than treble
this calculation. Already has this plan been tried with the most flattering results. In towns where twenty
or thirty dollars was been the highest sum contributed for a year, three times that sum has been pledged
upon this plan to a single individual in one day. One agent writes:- "In carrying out this plan, I
meet with no opposition: All speak of the plan in the highest terms. I find no difficulty in getting
individuals to volunteer to be collectors."

Where is there one individual so poor as to be unable to appropriate a small sum for this cause
every week, that others may possess the freedom which he enjoys?"

Will you immediately on the reception of this, call a meeting of the most tried friends of the
cause, (men & women) in your town, appoint a treasurer & one or two collectors in each school district?
Each collector should immediately head a subscription (to be deposited weekly in a money box,
manufactured for this purpose, with appropriate devices & inscriptions) & solicit every man, wo-
man & child, in the district to do the same, & on the last Monday of every month make the collec-
tions & pay the same over to the Treasurer. The Treasurer should enter the name of each collector
in a book furnished gratuitously with the amount paid in each month & forward the same to S. E. Chap-
man, Treasurer of the Mass. A. S. Soc.' 25 Cornhill Boston. Each family or contributor should furnish himself
with a money box so that the weekly contributions may be deposited regularly every Sabbath morning. This
should be insisted upon, so that the contribution will not become burdensome. It will also secure efficient &
systematic benevolence. The entire success of this plan will depend upon the zeal & efficiency of the treasurer &
collectors in each town. Will you see that this plan is thoroughly adopted & write me of your success as soon as
possible? For the sake of the cause of suffering millions I entreat you to attend to this without delay.

P.S. Contributors' money boxes can be had of the Agents of the Mass. A.S. Soc'y or of Enoch Peabody, 25 Cornhill Boston. Price 175 cts per dozen. Collectors cards & treasurer's books can be had gratuitously as above.

Respectfully Yours for truth and freedom

Maria W. Chapman